



325 Selden Street

1895

Selden School 1895-mid 1970s

Olive Webster (1790-1868) & Simeon Selden (1784-1829). Olive was the wealthy widow of Simeon Selden or Seldon. She left \$9, 500 to school district #7

Private residence since mid 1970s

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 154

1895 Selden Street School

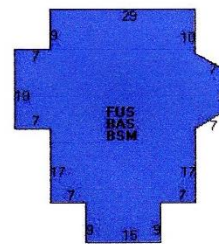
current owner: John Bolles

The Selden Street School is historically significant as a long-time educational institution in Berlin. In 1868, Mrs. Olive Selden (also known as Seldon), a wealthy widow, died in Beckley Quarter (north-eastern Berlin) and left a fund of some \$9,500 to School District No. 7. This fund was ultimately used to build and maintain this school, which remained in the Berlin system until recent years. As a large brick schoolhouse, it was considered a progressive improvement over the earlier small frame district school. Since the mid-1970's it has been a private home.

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1895 Marilyn Clayton

Sketch



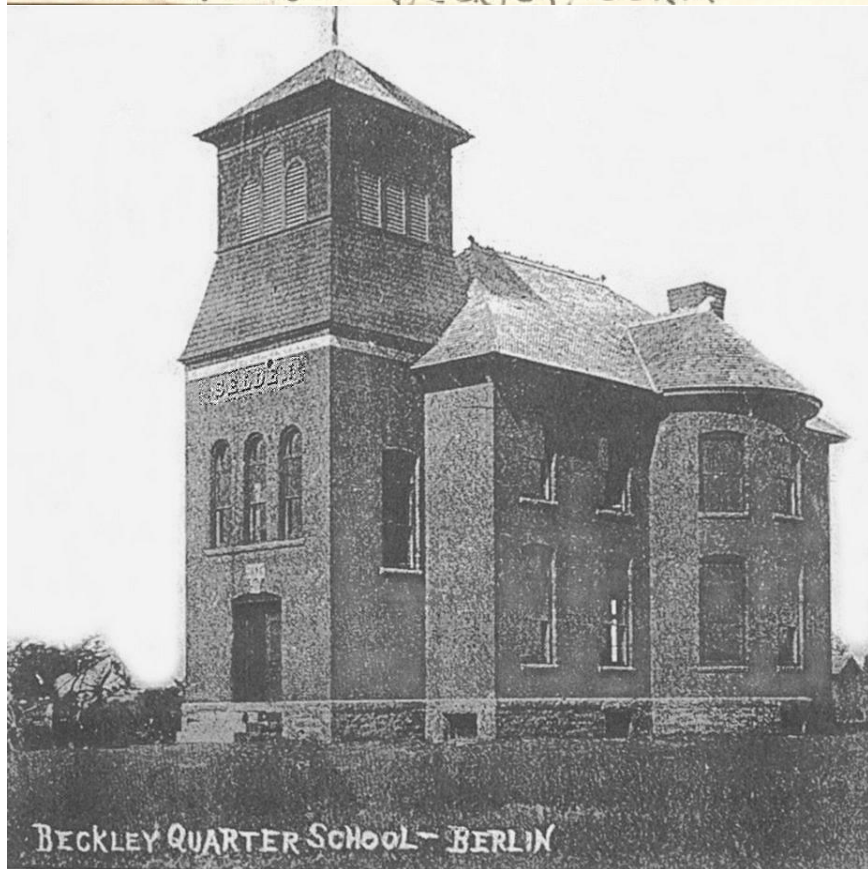
Genealogy

Olive was the wealthy widow of Simeon Selden or Seldon. She left \$9, 500 to school district #7. The money was ultimately used to build and maintain Selden School, 355 Selden St., Berlin. She died at age 71 years. Beers, pub. - p.1041 Hale Cemetery Records - p.1041

Olive Webster (1790-1868) daughter of John Webster & Eunice Deming. In 1821, she married Simeon Selden (1784-1829) of Middle Haddam, CT, son of Capt. Elias Selden & Ruth Kirby. They had 4 children: Simeon, Lovey, Norris, & Sarah. Simeon died in Middle Haddam, CT. Olive died in Berlin and is buried in Beckley Cemetery.



Selden School Beckley, Conn.



BECKLEY QUARTER SCHOOL - BERLIN

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM:	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

#154

IDENTIFICATION	
1. BUILDING NAME (Common)	(Historic) Selden Street School
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE COUNTY
Berlin	Hartford
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)	5-3/123/1
325 Selden Street	
4. OWNER(S)	171 Main St. Newington 06111 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private
Bolles, John F. Jr.	
5. USE (Present)	(Historic) School
Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE IF YES, EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
7. STYLE OF BUILDING	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
19th century vernacular	1895
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick Walls <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle on tower <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone foundation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type:	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
10. ROOF (Type)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
(Material)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Tin <input type="checkbox"/> Slate <input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Built up <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street	
11. NUMBER OF STORIES	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS
2	28' x 53'
12. CONDITION (Structural)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	(Exterior) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved	WHEN? (Alterations) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN
	Later sash, front entry
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land <input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS	
On a large, wooded lot in a relatively isolated portion of northwestern Berlin	

DESCRIPTION

PHOTO	154		DATE	11/84	Place Photograph Here (See Continuation Sheet for Photo)
	HRC		NEGATIVE ON FILE		
	VIEW		F30; 31		
	N; SE				
COMPILED BY	NAME		DATE		
	Historic Resource Consultants		12/84		
	Cott Armory				
	55 Van Dyke Avenue				
Hartford, Connecticut 06108					
20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:					
17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)					
DESCRIPTION (Continued)	<p>The Selden Street School is a two-story, hipped roof brick building with a large brick tower centered on the facade (south elevation). The building has a raised random ashlar foundation with a brick water table. Windows are segmental-arched with brownstone sills and are generally fitted with one-over-one sash; first floor windows have small fixed panes above. The one-bay three-story tower has a large segmental-arched doorway with a dated brownstone keyblock. Above are three round-arched windows on a continuous brownstone sill, above which is a brownstone tablet carved with the word "Selden." The hip-roofed cupola sits on a shingled base and has triple round-arched louvres suggesting a Palladian window, fish scale shingles, and a bracketed cornice. The left (west) elevation has a single two-bay two-story rectilinear ell; the right has a circular bay with a conical roof. To the rear are steel fire stairs and an exterior brick chimney.</p>				
18 ARCHITECT					
BUILDER					
19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE					
SIGNIFICANCE	<p>The Selden Street School is historically significant as a long-time educational institution in Berlin. In 1868, Mrs. Olive Selden (also known as Seldon), a wealthy widow, died in Beckley Quarter (north-eastern Berlin) and left a fund of some \$9,500 to School District No. 7. This fund was ultimately used to build and maintain this school, which remained in the Berlin system until recent years. As a large brick schoolhouse, it was considered a progressive improvement over the earlier small frame district school. Since the mid-1970's it has been a private home.</p> <p>Architecturally, the Selden Street School is significant as a good example of eclectic Victorian architecture. The segmental arched windows are typical of 19th and early 20th-century construction, the tower with its Palladian-style louvres and decorative shingles owes something to both Classical Revival and Victorian Vernacular fashions, and the round-arched windows and bracketed cornice suggest an Italianate influence.</p>				
SOURCES	<p>Beers 1901, p. 1043 Burpee, p. 1170 Berlin Land Records 190:531 (1976)</p>				

